

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 611)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 + 8x + 40 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(8) \pm \sqrt{(8)^2 - 4(1)(40)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(8) \pm \sqrt{64 - 160}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-8 \pm \sqrt{-96}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-8 \pm \sqrt{-16 \cdot 6}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-8 \pm 4\sqrt{6}i}{2}$$

$$x = -4 \pm 2\sqrt{6}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $-8 - 5i$ and $-4 - 7i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$(-8 - 5i) \cdot (-4 - 7i)$$

$$32 + 56i + 20i + 35i^2$$

$$32 + 56i + 20i - 35$$

$$32 - 35 + 56i + 20i$$

$$-3 + 76i$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 - 22x - 24$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x + 6)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & 3 & -22 & -24 \\ -6 & & -6 & 18 & 24 \\ \hline & 1 & -3 & -4 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x + 6)(x^2 - 3x - 4)$$

$$f(x) = (x + 6)(x + 1)(x - 4)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = -(x + 6)^2 \cdot (x + 2)^2 \cdot (x - 1)$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

